

A' COM · corresponding windows 45 of the cartridge holder 41. Each connecting member 47 is thus fitted in the corresponding windows 45, 55.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

A2
sub C1

1. (Once amended) An ink cartridge for an inkjet printer,
wherein the ink cartridge is one of ink cartridges that are detachably attached to a cartridge accommodating portion of the inkjet printer as aligned in parallel,
each ink cartridge having at least one engaging portion formed at a side of the ink cartridge that faces an adjacent ink cartridge,
wherein a set of the opposed engaging portions of each pair of adjacent ink cartridges forms a matching set in which the engaging portions engage with each other to position the adjacent ink cartridges with respect to each other,
wherein the matching sets are shaped and located such that a fitting structure between one pair of adjacent ink cartridges and a fitting structure between another pair of adjacent ink cartridges are different in form,
wherein the ink cartridges respectively comprise ink supply ports,
wherein the cartridge accommodating portion comprises ink supply needles,
wherein each of the ink supply needles corresponds to one of the ink supply ports,
wherein the ink supply needles are inserted into the ink supply ports in an insertion direction when the ink cartridges are attached to the cartridge accommodating portion, and
wherein each matching set is shaped to permit the adjacent ink cartridges to move relative

A1 Cont. with each other in a direction in which the ink cartridges are aligned.

Sub. Cont.
3. (Once amended) An ink cartridge for an inkjet printer,
wherein the ink cartridge is one of ink cartridges that are detachably attached to a
cartridge accommodating portion of the inkjet printer as aligned in parallel,
each ink cartridge having at least one engaging portion formed at a side of the ink
cartridge that faces an adjacent ink cartridge,

A2
wherein a set of the opposed engaging portions of each pair of adjacent ink cartridges
forms a matching set in which the engaging portions engage with each other to position the
adjacent ink cartridges with respect to each other,

wherein the matching sets are shaped and located such that a fitting structure between one
pair of adjacent ink cartridges and a fitting structure between another pair of adjacent ink
cartridges are different in form,

wherein one engaging portion of each matching set is a projection and the other is a
recess, and

wherein the projection of one of the matching sets has a different shape than the
projection of another one of the matching sets.

Sub. Cont.
A3
6. (Once amended) An ink cartridge for an inkjet printer,
wherein the ink cartridge is one of ink cartridges that are detachably attached to a
cartridge accommodating portion of the inkjet printer as aligned in parallel,
each ink cartridge having at least one engaging portion formed at a side of the ink

cartridge that faces an adjacent ink cartridge,

wherein a set of the opposed engaging portions of each pair of adjacent ink cartridges forms a matching set in which the engaging portions engage with each other to position the adjacent ink cartridges with respect to each other,

wherein the matching sets are shaped and located such that a fitting structure between one pair of adjacent ink cartridges and a fitting structure between another pair of adjacent ink cartridges are different in form,

wherein each ink cartridge includes a main body and a sub body connected to the main body, and each engaging portion is formed in only the sub body of the associated ink cartridge.

9. (Once amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 7, wherein both of the contacts of a first pair of adjacent ink cartridges contact a first one of the plurality of connecting members.

10. (Once amended) An ink cartridge for an inkjet printer, wherein the ink cartridge is one of ink cartridges that are detachably attached to a cartridge accommodating portion of the inkjet printer as aligned in parallel,

each ink cartridge having at least one engaging portion formed at a side of the ink cartridge that faces an adjacent ink cartridge,

wherein a set of the opposed engaging portions of each pair of adjacent ink cartridges forms a matching set in which the engaging portions engage with each other to position the adjacent ink cartridges with respect to each other,

10-11 cont
11 cont
wherein each matching set is formed only between predetermined two adjacent ink cartridges such that the ink cartridges are connected together as aligned in a predetermined order, wherein the ink cartridges respectively comprise ink supply ports, wherein the cartridge accommodating portion comprises ink supply needles, wherein each of the ink supply needles corresponds to one of the ink supply ports, wherein the ink supply needles are inserted into the ink supply ports in an insertion direction when the ink cartridges are attached to the cartridge accommodating portion, and wherein each matching set is shaped to permit the adjacent ink cartridges to move relative with each other in a direction in which the ink cartridges are aligned.

12-13 cont
14 cont
12. (Once amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 10, wherein one engaging portion of each matching set is a projection and the other is a recess, and wherein the projection of one of the matching sets has a different shape than the projection of another one of the matching sets.

15-16 cont
17 cont
16. (Once amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 15, wherein both of the contacts of a first pair of adjacent ink cartridges contact a first one of the plurality of connecting members.

18-19 cont
20 cont
18. (Once amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 17, wherein both of the contacts of a first pair of adjacent ink cartridges contact a first one of the connecting members.

19. (Once amended) An inkjet printer, comprising:
a cartridge accommodating portion; and
a plurality of ink cartridges,
wherein the ink cartridges are detachably attached to the cartridge accommodating
portion as aligned in parallel,
each ink cartridge having at least one engaging portion formed at a side of the ink
cartridge that faces an adjacent ink cartridge,
wherein a set of the opposed engaging portions of each pair of adjacent ink cartridges
forms a matching set in which the engaging portions engage with each other to position the
adjacent ink cartridges with respect to each other,
wherein the matching sets are shaped and located such that a fitting structure between one
pair of adjacent ink cartridges and a fitting structure between another pair of adjacent ink
cartridges are different in form,
wherein the ink cartridges respectively comprise ink supply ports,
wherein the cartridge accommodating portion comprises ink supply needles,
wherein each of the ink supply needles corresponds to one of the ink supply ports,
wherein the ink supply needles are inserted into the ink supply ports in an insertion
direction when the ink cartridges are attached to the cartridge accommodating portion, and
wherein each matching set is shaped to permit the adjacent ink cartridges to move relative
with each other in a direction in which the ink cartridges are aligned.

Please add the following new claims.

21. (New) The ink cartridge according to claim 6, wherein the main bodies of each of the ink cartridges have substantially the same shape.

22. (New) The ink cartridge according to claim 9, wherein both of the contacts of a second pair of adjacent ink cartridges do not contact the first one of the plurality of connecting members.

23. (New) The ink cartridge according to claim 16, wherein both of the contacts of a second pair of adjacent ink cartridges do not contact the first one of the plurality of connecting members.

24. (New) The ink cartridge according to claim 18, wherein both of the contacts of a second pair of adjacent ink cartridges do not contact the first one of the connecting members.

25. (New) An ink cartridge system for an inkjet printer, comprising:
a first ink cartridge, wherein a first engaging portion is located at a first side of the first ink cartridge;
a second ink cartridge, wherein a second engaging portion is located at a first side of the second ink cartridge and engages the first engaging portion and wherein a third engaging portion is located at a second side of the second ink cartridge; and
a third ink cartridge, wherein a fourth engaging portion is located at a first side of the third ink cartridge and engages the third engaging portion,

wherein a size of the first engaging portion substantially equals a size of the second engaging portion,

wherein a size of the third engaging portion substantially equals a size of the fourth engaging portion, and

wherein the size of the second engaging portion is substantially different than the size of the third engaging portion.

26. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 25, wherein the size of the second engaging portion is larger than the size of the third engaging portion.

27. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 25, wherein the size of the second engaging portion is smaller than the size of the third engaging portion.

28. (New) An ink cartridge system for an inkjet printer, comprising:
a first ink cartridge, wherein a first engaging portion is located at a first side of the first ink cartridge;
a second ink cartridge, wherein a second engaging portion is located at a first side of the second ink cartridge and engages the first engaging portion and wherein a third engaging portion is located at a second side of the second ink cartridge; and
a third ink cartridge, wherein a fourth engaging portion is located at a first side of the third ink cartridge and engages the third engaging portion,
wherein the first, second, and third ink cartridges are stacked in a first direction when the

first engaging portion engages the second engaging portion and when the third engaging portion engages the fourth engaging portion, and

wherein a dimension of the first engaging portion in a second direction substantially equals a dimension of the second engaging portion in the second direction,

wherein a dimension of the third engaging portion in the second direction substantially equals a dimension of the fourth engaging portion in the second direction,

wherein the dimension of the second engaging portion in the second direction is substantially different than the dimension of the third engaging portion in the second direction, and

wherein the second direction is substantially perpendicular to the first direction.

29. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 28, wherein the dimension of the second engaging portion in the second direction is larger than the dimension of the third engaging portion in the second direction.

30. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 28, wherein the dimension of the second engaging portion in the second direction is smaller than the dimension of the third engaging portion in the second direction.

31. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 29, wherein a dimension of the first ink cartridge in the first direction is different than a dimension of the second ink cartridge in the first direction.

Amended
32. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 31, wherein the dimension of the first ink cartridge in the first direction is greater than the dimension of the second ink cartridge in the first direction.

33. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 32, wherein the dimension of the second ink cartridge in the first direction is greater than a dimension of the third ink cartridge in the first direction.

Amended
34. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 30, wherein a dimension of the first ink cartridge in the first direction is different than a dimension of the second ink cartridge in the first direction.

35. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 34, wherein the dimension of the first ink cartridge in the first direction is greater than the dimension of the second ink cartridge in the first direction.

36. (New) The ink cartridge system as claimed in claim 35, wherein the dimension of the second ink cartridge in the first direction is greater than a dimension of the third ink cartridge in the first direction.